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**ELECTIONS DIVISION**  
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[www.nd.gov/sos/electvote](http://www.nd.gov/sos/electvote)



Dear Uniformed Service Members Stationed in North Dakota,

Hello, I'm Al Jaeger, North Dakota's Secretary of State and the state's chief election official.

Elections allow us to exercise one of our most fundamental rights – the right to vote. Elections give us a voice in our state and national politics, they encourage us to take an active interest in our schools and neighborhoods, and permit us to speak out on issues and causes of interest and importance.

In North Dakota, voting is made very easy through absentee voting and early voting. Voting is especially accessible in North Dakota since voters are not required to register before voting.

I encourage uniformed service members to take advantage of the ease of voting in North Dakota during this election year! For those members who are not residents of North Dakota, I encourage you to participate in your home state through the absentee voting process.

**Al Jaeger**  
**North Dakota Secretary of State**

## ☒ Voter Qualifications

In order to vote in North Dakota, you must be:

- A U.S. citizen;
- At least 18 years old on the day of election;
- A resident of North Dakota; and
- A resident in the precinct for 30 days preceding the election.

## ☒ Determining Residence

Voting residence can be summed up simply by the following excerpt from an opinion issued by the North Dakota Attorney General in May of 1995. The opinion states, "The act of voting does not make a person a resident [of North Dakota]. Rather, a person must be a resident prior to voting."

For the purpose of voting, the term residence and voting residence are the same in North Dakota. Every person has a residence. In determining residence, the following rules must be observed.

- A person's residence is the place where one remains when not called elsewhere for labor or other special or temporary purpose, and to which he or she returns in seasons of repose;
- A person can only have one residence;
- A person's residence cannot be lost until another is gained;
- A person's residence can be changed only by the union of act and intent.

[Section 54-01-26 of the North Dakota Century Code]

## ☒ North Dakota...The Only State Without Voter Registration

North Dakota is the only state without voter registration. Therefore, North Dakota voters have no pre-election day registration requirements prior to voting.

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## ☒ Choosing to Vote in North Dakota

By voting, uniformed service members stationed in North Dakota are indicating that they are residents of the state of North Dakota. Therefore, prior to voting uniformed service personnel who wish to vote in North Dakota elections should be aware of the residency requirements and the implications and obligations that may follow. Among these implications and obligations may be a change in the home state of record or the need to file North Dakota State Income Taxes. Questions about voting in North Dakota may be directed to the voting assistance officer assigned to each unit or base.

## ☒ Voting in North Dakota

Precincts in North Dakota maintain a list of voters who have voted in previous elections. When a voter approaches a polling location they are asked to provide an acceptable form of identification. Then the election board will attempt to locate the voter's name on the voting list. If the voter's name is on the list, the voter's name and address are verified and the voter is allowed to vote.

If a voter is not on the list, but a poll worker is willing to verify that the voter is a qualified elector of the precinct, the poll worker may vouch for the voter's eligibility. The voter is then given the right to vote.

If the voter is not on the list, and no poll worker is able to vouch for the voter's eligibility, the voter will be challenged. As part of the challenge, the voter is asked to sign an affidavit swearing to the fact that he or she is a qualified elector of the precinct and therefore qualified to vote in the precinct. If the voter agrees to sign the affidavit, the voter must be allowed to vote. If the voter refuses to sign the affidavit, the voter is choosing not to vote.

## ☒ Challenging Voters

An election board member may challenge the right of an individual to vote if the election board member has knowledge or has reason to believe the individual is not a qualified elector. A challenge may be based upon any one of the following:

1. The individual offering to vote does not meet the age or citizenship requirements.
2. The individual offering to vote has never voted in the precinct before, the name of the individual offering to vote does not appear in the poll book, and the individual fails to provide reasonable evidence of residency in the precinct.
3. The individual offering to vote physically resides outside of the precinct. (Except for those who have moved recently.)
4. The individual offering to vote does not meet the residency requirements provided in section 16.1-01-04.
5. The individual offering to vote fails or refuses to provide an appropriate form of identification.

If the identification is not provided or does not adequately confirm the eligibility of the challenged individual, the challenged individual may not vote without signing a Voter's Affidavit, acknowledged before the election inspector, stating that the challenged individual is a legally qualified elector of the precinct.

Falsely swearing to be a qualified elector is a class A misdemeanor and carries a maximum penalty of one-year imprisonment, a fine of \$2,000, or both. A voter is to be made aware of these penalties when completing the affidavit. After the election, county auditors and states attorneys will review affidavits to verify voter eligibility.

Uniformed service members stationed in North Dakota should not be alarmed when challenged at the polls. The challenge process is not intended to be a threatening encounter or a form of intimidation. Rather, the challenge process is a normal component of the Election Day process in North Dakota. Absent voter registration, the challenge process is the only safeguard election boards can rely upon to screen persons wishing to vote in North Dakota.

## ☒ Voting Absentee in North Dakota

Absentee ballots are available to qualified electors wishing to vote absentee prior to the date of the election.

Absentee ballot applications may be found at the following web site: <http://www.nd.gov/sos/electvote/voting/voting-absentee.html>.

Election officials of the county, city, or school district may also furnish absentee ballot applications to qualified elector. Application may also be made by providing the following information to the proper election official:

- the applicant's name;
- the applicant's current or most recent ND residential address;
- the applicant's mailing address;
- the applicant's current home telephone number;
- the election for which the ballot is being requested;
- the date of the request;
- an affirmation that the applicant has resided in the precinct for at least thirty days;
- the applicant's signature.
- voter's precinct or voting location if known

Qualified electors are not required to provide a reason for requesting an absent voter's ballot.

Applications for absentee ballots may be delivered to the appropriate county auditor by mail, in person, or by fax. Uniformed service members stationed away from home and citizens living outside the United States may also receive and return voted ballots by fax and email according to North Dakota law. For more information, please consult with your voting assistance officer, the Secretary of State's office, or your county auditor.

According to North Dakota law, absentee ballots are to be made available by the 40<sup>th</sup> day before the election. Returned absentee ballots must have an official postmark or date stamp by the day before the election.

Uniformed service members interested in voting absentee in their home states should contact their voting assistance officer to learn about voter registration and absentee voting laws, procedures, deadlines, and forms in the other states and territories.

## ☒ Sources and Contacts for Military Voters

Uniformed service members stationed in North Dakota who have questions about voting have many resources to look to for guidance.

### Voting Assistance Officers

The best and most accessible resource concerning voting is the voting assistance officers assigned to each unit or base. These individuals are trained to respond to the many voting and residency related questions that arise.

### Federal Voting Assistance Program

**Toll Free** 800-438-8683  
**Web Site** [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)  
**E-mail** [vote@fvap.ncr.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.ncr.gov)

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) administered by the Secretary of Defense has three distinct goals. These are to:

1. Inform and educate United States citizens worldwide of their right to vote;
2. Foster voting participation; and
3. Protect the integrity of, and simultaneously enhance, the electoral process at the Federal, State and local levels.

The FVAP web site contains helpful information on voting procedures in the various states and includes voter registration and absentee voting deadlines and forms for military personnel to complete and return.

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## North Dakota Secretary of State, Elections Division

**Toll Free** 800-352-0867 ext. 8-4146  
**Web Site** [www.nd.gov/sos](http://www.nd.gov/sos)  
**E-mail** [soselect@state.nd.us](mailto:soselect@state.nd.us)

The North Dakota Secretary of State serves as North Dakota's chief election official. The Elections Division is ultimately responsible for carrying out and overseeing election laws and procedures throughout the state and its various political subdivisions.

As with the FVAP, the North Dakota Secretary of State's office also maintains a web site containing valuable information for voters, candidates, and the general public. The site also includes contact information for the state's 53 county election officials (County Auditors) along with absentee ballot applications and other useful election related pamphlets and forms applicable to North Dakota.

### North Dakota's County Auditors

North Dakota's 53 county auditors serve as the chief election officials of the various counties. For the most part, these are the officials to whom you apply for and receive absentee ballots. Contact information for North Dakota's county auditors may be obtained from the following pages of this document, the Secretary of State's office at 800-352-0867 or the Secretary of State's web site [www.nd.gov/sos/electvote/voting/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/sos/electvote/voting/index.html).

## ☒ How to Vote by Absentee Ballot

Whether you are stationed within the United States or overseas, voting by absentee ballot involves extra time. For this reason, please request your ballot as soon as you know that you will need to vote absentee. Absentee ballot applications may be made at any time during an election year and voters may request absentee ballots for all elections during that year. Therefore it is best to apply early.

1. An absentee ballot application is available at the following site [www.nd.gov/sos/electvote/voting/voting-absentee.html](http://www.nd.gov/sos/electvote/voting/voting-absentee.html).
2. Send this application either by mail or fax to your county auditor. (ND county auditor contact information is included with this document. Please see next page.)

Please note that the signature on the absentee ballot application will be compared with the signature accompanying the returned voted ballot as a voter security measure.

## ☒ ND County Auditor's Contact Information

The following is a listing of our 53 county auditors and their contact information. They want to help you to have a voice in government.

(see next page)

Adams County Auditor  
Patricia (Pat) Carroll  
602 Adams Ave  
Box 589  
Hettinger ND 58639-0589  
701-567-4363 - phone  
701-567-2910 - fax  
[pcarroll@state.nd.us](mailto:pcarroll@state.nd.us)

Barnes County Auditor  
Edward McGough  
230 4th Street NW, Room 202  
Valley City ND 58072-2947  
701-845-8500 - phone  
701-845-8548 - fax  
[emcgough@co.barnes.nd.us](mailto:emcgough@co.barnes.nd.us)

Benson County Auditor  
Bonnie (Howard) Erickson  
311 B Ave S  
Box 206  
Minnewaukan ND 58351-0206  
701-473-5340 - phone  
701-473-5571 - fax  
[bs Erickson@state.nd.us](mailto:bs Erickson@state.nd.us)

Billings County Auditor  
Sydney Hegge  
Box 168  
Medora ND 58645-0168  
701-623-4377 - phone  
701-623-4761 - fax  
[auditor@midstate.net](mailto:auditor@midstate.net)

Bottineau County Auditor  
Mae Streich  
314 W 5th Street  
Bottineau ND 58318-1204  
701-228-2225 - phone  
701-228-3658 - fax  
[mstreich@state.nd.us](mailto:mstreich@state.nd.us)

Bowman County Auditor  
Sandi Tivis  
104 1st St NW  
Box 439  
Bowman ND 58623-0439  
701-523-3130 - phone  
701-523-5443 - fax  
[stivis@state.nd.us](mailto:stivis@state.nd.us)

Burke County Auditor  
Teri Baumann  
103 Main St SE  
PO Box 310  
Bowbells ND 58721-0310  
701-377-2861 - phone  
701-377-2020 - fax  
[tbaumann@state.nd.us](mailto:tbaumann@state.nd.us)

Burleigh County Auditor  
Kevin Glatt  
221 N 5th St  
PO Box 5518  
Bismarck ND 58506-5518  
701-222-6718 - phone  
701-222-7528 - fax  
[kglatt@state.nd.us](mailto:kglatt@state.nd.us)

Cass County Auditor  
Michael Montplaisir  
211 9th St S  
PO Box 2806  
Fargo ND 58108-2806  
701-241-5601 - phone  
701-241-5728 - fax  
[montplaisir@co.cass.nd.us](mailto:montplaisir@co.cass.nd.us)

Cavalier County Auditor  
Dawn Roppel  
901 3rd Street, Ste 15  
Langdon ND 58249-2457  
701-256-2229 - phone  
701-256-2546 - fax  
[droppel@state.nd.us](mailto:droppel@state.nd.us)

Dickey County Auditor  
Larry Hoffman  
309 N 2nd St  
Box 215  
Ellendale ND 58436-0215  
701-349-3249 ext. 3 - phone  
701-349-4639 - fax  
[lhoffman@state.nd.us](mailto:lhoffman@state.nd.us)

Divide County Auditor  
Gayle Jastrzebski  
PO Box 49  
Crosby ND 58730-0049  
701-965-6351 - phone  
701-965-6943 - fax  
[gjastrze@state.nd.us](mailto:gjastrze@state.nd.us)

Dunn County Auditor  
Reinhard Hauck  
PO Box 105  
Manning ND 58642-0105  
701-573-4448 - phone  
701-573-4323 - fax  
[rehauck@state.nd.us](mailto:rehauck@state.nd.us)

Eddy County Auditor  
Darlene Haugen  
524 Central Avenue  
New Rockford ND 58356-1698  
701-947-2434 ext. 2020 - phone  
701-947-2279 - fax  
[dyhaugen@state.nd.us](mailto:dyhaugen@state.nd.us)

Emmons County Auditor  
Anna Mary Dockter  
PO Box 129  
Linton ND 58552-0129  
701-254-4807 - phone  
701-254-4012 - fax  
[amdockte@state.nd.us](mailto:amdockte@state.nd.us)

Foster County Auditor  
Roger Schlotman  
474 10th Ave N  
Box 104  
Carrington ND 58421-0104  
701-652-2441 - phone  
701-652-2173 - fax  
[rschlotm@state.nd.us](mailto:rschlotm@state.nd.us)

Golden Valley County Auditor  
Cecilia Stedman  
Box 67  
Beach ND 58621-0067  
701-872-4331 - phone  
701-872-4383 - fax  
[cstedman@midstate.net](mailto:cstedman@midstate.net)

Grand Forks County Auditor  
Debbie Nelson  
151 S 4th  
PO Box 5726  
Grand Forks ND 58206-5726  
701-780-8200 - phone  
701-780-8207 - fax  
[debbie.nelson@gfcounty.com](mailto:debbie.nelson@gfcounty.com)

Grant County Auditor  
Audrey Diehl  
Courthouse  
Box 227  
Carson ND 58529-0227  
701-622-3275 - phone  
701-622-3005 - fax  
[adiehl@state.nd.us](mailto:adiehl@state.nd.us)

Griggs County Auditor  
Cindy Anton  
808 Rollin Ave SW  
Box 511  
Cooperstown ND 58425-0511  
701-797-3117 - phone  
701-797-3587 - fax  
[cindy.anton@griggsnd.com](mailto:cindy.anton@griggsnd.com)

Hettinger County Auditor  
Roy Steiner  
Box 668  
Mott ND 58646-0668  
701-824-2515 - phone  
701-824-2717 - fax  
[rsteiner@state.nd.us](mailto:rsteiner@state.nd.us)

Kidder County Auditor  
Ruth Graf  
120 E Broadway  
PO Box 167  
Steele ND 58482-0167  
701-475-2632 - phone  
701-475-2202 - fax  
[rgraf@state.nd.us](mailto:rgraf@state.nd.us)

LaMoure County Auditor  
Michial Johnson  
Box 128  
Lamoure ND 58458-0128  
701-883-5301 ext. 203 - phone  
701-883-4220 - fax  
[mjohnso@state.nd.us](mailto:mjohnso@state.nd.us)

Logan County Auditor  
Blanche Schumacher  
301 Broadway  
Napoleon ND 58561-7010  
701-754-2425 - phone  
701-754-2280 - fax  
[baschuma@state.nd.us](mailto:baschuma@state.nd.us)

McHenry County Auditor  
Darlene Carpenter  
407 S Main  
Box 147  
Towner ND 58788-0147  
701-537-5724 - phone  
701-537-5969 - fax  
[dcarpenter@state.nd.us](mailto:dcarpenter@state.nd.us)

McIntosh County Auditor  
Gina Ketterling  
PO Box 39  
Ashley ND 58413-0039  
701-288-3347 - phone  
701-288-3671 - fax  
[gketterl@state.nd.us](mailto:gketterl@state.nd.us)

McKenzie County Auditor  
Frances Olson  
201 5th St W  
Box 543  
Watford City ND 58854-0543  
701-444-3616 - phone  
701-444-4113 - fax  
[folson@4eyes.net](mailto:folson@4eyes.net)

McLean County Auditor  
Les Korgel  
PO Box 1108  
Washburn ND 58577-1108  
701-462-8541 - phone  
701-462-3542 - fax  
[mcleanco@washburn.ctctel.com](mailto:mcleanco@washburn.ctctel.com)

Mercer County Auditor  
Sandy Bohrer  
1021 Arthur St  
PO Box 39  
Stanton ND 58571-0039  
701-745-3292 - phone  
701-745-3793 - fax  
[sbohrer@state.nd.us](mailto:sbohrer@state.nd.us)

Morton County Auditor  
Paul Trauger  
210 2nd Avenue NW  
Mandan ND 58554-3158  
701-667-3300 - phone  
701-667-3453 - fax  
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Mountrail County Auditor  
Karen Eliason  
PO Box 69  
Stanley ND 58784-0069  
701-628-2145 - phone  
701-628-3975 - fax  
[karene@co.mountrail.nd.us](mailto:karene@co.mountrail.nd.us)

Nelson County Auditor  
Jack Davidson  
210 B Ave W Ste 201  
Lakota ND 58344-7410  
701-247-2463 - phone  
701-247-2754 - fax  
[wdavidso@state.nd.us](mailto:wdavidso@state.nd.us)

Oliver County Auditor  
Barbara Fleming  
115 West Main  
Box 188  
Center ND 58530-0188  
701-794-8721 - phone  
701-794-3476 - fax  
[bfleming@state.nd.us](mailto:bfleming@state.nd.us)

Pembina County Auditor  
Dorothy Robinson  
301 Dakota Street West #1  
Cavalier ND 58220-4100  
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Pierce County Auditor  
Karin Fursather  
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Rugby ND 58368-1897  
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701-776-5707 - fax  
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Elizabeth Fischer  
524 4th Avenue NE Unit 6  
Devils Lake ND 58301  
701-662-7007 - phone  
701-662-7049 - fax  
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Connie Gilbert  
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Lisbon ND 58054-0668  
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701-683-5827 - fax  
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Renville County Auditor  
LeAnn Fisher  
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Mohall ND 58761-0068  
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701-756-7158 - fax  
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Richland County Auditor  
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Wahpeton ND 58075-4400  
701-642-7700 - phone  
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[hbailey@co.richland.nd.us](mailto:hbailey@co.richland.nd.us)

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701-477-6339 - fax  
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Sargent County Auditor  
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Stutsman County Auditor  
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701-251-6325 - fax  
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Towner County Auditor  
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Cando ND 58324-0603  
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Traill County Auditor  
Rebecca Braaten  
114 W Caledonia  
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Minot ND 58702-5005  
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Wells County Auditor  
Janell Rudel  
700 Railway St N  
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Fessenden ND 58438-0037  
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Williams County Auditor  
Beth Innis  
205 E Broadway  
Box 2047  
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